Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, May 25 has annually been declared National Missing Children's Day; and,

Whereas, The Missing Children Act of 1982 was the first federal law to address this issue, and in 1983, President Ronald Reagan proclaimed the first Missing Children's Day; and,

Whereas, Families and friends of missing children join together to plan events in communities across America to raise public awareness about the issue of missing children; and,

Whereas, Children are our most valuable asset, our link to the future, and their protection and safety deserve our utmost attention and priority; and,

Whereas, In 2006, 1,118 children were reported missing in the state of South Dakota, and locating and returning these children to their homes is a statewide, national and international objective; and,

Whereas, In addition to the already existing crimes against children, we now have a serious additional threat due to the expansion of Internet technology; and,

Whereas, It is fitting and proper as governor of the state of South Dakota to join several other governors in signing an interstate agreement on missing and exploited children, and our participation in I-SEARCH shows the commitment our state has to improved safety and recovery of missing children:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 25, 2007, as

MISSING CHILDREN'S DAY

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this First Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seven.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State